National Aeronautics and Space Administration John H. Glenn Research Center

Lewis Field Cleveland, OH 44135-3191



April 12, 2006

Reply to Attn of:

G

TO:

Distribution

FROM:

G/Deputy Designated Ethics Official

SUJBECT:

Blanket Determination Regarding Attendance at Luncheon for Dr. Lisa Porter,

NASA Senior Advisor for Aeronautics Technology

The Ohio Aerospace Institute (OAI), will host a luncheon for Federal, state, and local community officials offering attendees the opportunity to meet Dr. Lisa Porter, NASA Senior Administrator for Aeronautics Technology. At this time Dr. Porter will discuss the NASA mission and agency decisions affecting the growth and development of aeronautics in Ohio. The luncheon will be held on Wednesday, April 19, 2006 from noon until 1:00 p.m. at the NASA Glenn Administration Building Auditorium, located at the NASA Glenn Research Center, 21000 Brookpark Rd., Cleveland, Ohio. OAI has invited several NASA employees to attend the event. I have determined it to be in the best interest of the Government for those NASA employees who are invited to this event to attend in their official capacities as representatives of NASA.

The luncheon will be a widely attended gathering of more than 50 individuals who are Ohio House and Senate members, state officials, mayors, city council members, and officials who work in government and education. NASA invitees will have the opportunity to meet with key public officials who make decisions that affect the state and region. The estimated cost of the luncheon, which includes all food and beverages, is \$10.00 per person.

In accordance with 5 C.F.R. § 2635.204 (g) and 14 C. F. R. § 1207.103, Designation of Responsible Officials, I find that this event meets the requirements of a "widely attended gathering." In light of NASA's involvement in research programs that impact the state and local community, I conclude that NASA's interest in its employees attending this event outweighs any concern that free attendance may, or may appear to, improperly influence any NASA personnel in the performance of their official duties.

NASA employees whose duties may substantially affect OAI, such as by way of procurement duties, should seek an individual determination pursuant to 5 C.F.R. § 2635.204 (g)(3)(1), regarding participation in this event from the Chief Counsel's Office.

Accordingly, NASA Glenn Research Center employees and their spouses who are invited may participate in the luncheon without charge.

William Sikora

Deputy DAEO